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To the south of the town, about half a mile from the lower portion of it, a swamp existed, extending some miles up the river. As is well known, these swamps in tropical countries are the breeding places of innumerable mosquitoes. The contractors, however, had agreed to fill in this swamp, and at the present date have filled in over half a square mile with sand pumped from the river, the existing vegetation having, of course, been first cleared from it. This, naturally, decreased the number of breeding places of the mosquitoes. While this was being effected the problem that presented itself was the getting rid of the further breeding places of the mosquito. This, in a measure, has been effected by a general clearing up of all *débris*, such as old bottles, cans, broken glassware, etc., among which it is well known that the mosquito breeds. The surface and subsoil of Coatzacoalcos being pure sand, and the town itself situated on a slope, there are no deposits of water which could form other breeding places.

A force of men has been at work cleaning up the streets generally and removing all garbage and *débris* to a safe distance from the town, where same is burned or buried. A number of drains leading to the river have been found defective and the owners have been compelled to repair same. All closets which, upon inspection, were considered to be a menace to the general health conditions, were ordered to be closed until necessary repairs were completed.

No case of yellow fever has originated in Coatzacoalcos since the above work was started, although, of course, it is impossible to say whether this is due to improved sanitation and the above methods of combating the evil or to other causes over which we have no control. Nevertheless, it is confidently hoped and expected that the experience gained during the present year will make possible a more vigorous and effective campaign during the early months of the coming year, so that epidemic yellow fever in the port of Coatzacoalcos may be considered as being a remote possibility.

Health conditions at Guaymas—Quarantine against Mazatlan.

Consul Agent Crocker, at Guaymas, reports June 1 as follows: The health of this port remains good. Quarantine against Mazatlan is still in force.

Mazatlan declared free from plague.

[Telegram.]

MEXICO CITY, June 17, 1903.

WYMAN, Washington:

Mazatlan has been declared free of the plague. Please advise international committee.

LICEAGA.

Report from Progreso—Sanitary conditions—Inspection of vessels.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Harrison reports, May 30, as follows: The population of Progreso is between 4,000 and 5,000, composed chiefly of Spaniards, Mexicans, and native Indians, with a small number of English-speaking people. The elevation of the town site is low; the soil apparently a coral sand. Water for drinking is obtained from the house